

REMARKS

Claims 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 31, 43, 69-71, 79, 87, 88, 90, 91, 93, 96, 97, 98 and 108 are amended, claims 1-9, 48-68, 78, 80-86 and 120-122 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 12, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22-30, 32-42, 44-47, 72-77, 89, 92, 94, 95, 99-107, 109-119 and 123-149 are unamended, and claims 150-158 are added; as a result, claims 10-47, 69-77, 79, 87-119, and 123-158 are now pending in this application.

Claims 31, 98 and 108 are amended to correct a typographical problem in the claims. Specifically, it appears that claims 31, 98 and 108 were filed without a period at the end of the claim. These amendments add the period. These amendments are not made in response to any rejection under the patent act. Moreover these amendments are not narrowing.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 2, and 48-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation by Brown (U.S. Pat. No. not indicated in Office Action). Claims 66-68, 78, and 83 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation by Wright (U.S. Pat. No. not indicated in Office Action). These claims are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection thereof is now moot.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 3-9, 48-54, 80-86, 120, 121 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. These claims are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection thereof is now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 44-47 and 123-149 were allowed.

Claims 10-43, 69-77, 79, and 87-119 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The applicant has rewritten Claims 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 43, 69-71, 79, 87, 88, 90, 91, 93, 96 and 97 as independent claims, and claims 12, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22-42, 44-47, 72-77, 89, 92, 94, 95, 98-119 and 123-149 are dependent on these independent claims. The rewriting of claims in independent form does not narrow the

scope of the claim. The Applicant believes that claims 10-43, 69-77, 79 and 87-119 now comply with the above requirements. The applicant accordingly requests allowance of these claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 349-9587 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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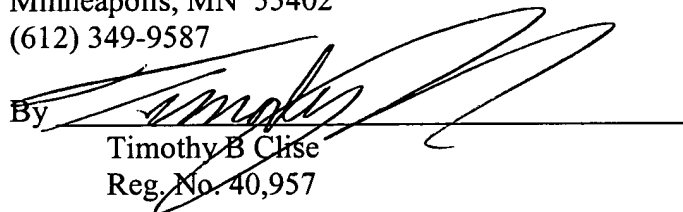
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23 March '05

By


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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 23 day of March, 2005.

CANDIS BUENDING

Name

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